

I claim:

1. A dental articulator comprising:
 - a. a body member;
 - b. an upper member;
 - c. an upper hinge;
 - d. a lower member and
 - e. a lower hinge.
2. A dental articulator according to claim 1 further comprising:
 - a. an upper body retention means for securing an upper articulated model;
 - b. a lower body retention means for securing a lower articulated model;
 - c. an upper member retention means for securing an upper articulated model;
and
 - d. a lower member retention means for securing a lower articulated model.
3. A dental articulator according to claim 2 whereby said dental articulator is made in one-piece.
4. A dental articulator according to claim 2 whereby said dental articulator is scored perpendicular to the vertical length of the dental articulator at the upper and lower quadrants between said body member and said upper member to form said upper hinge and between said body member and said lower member to form said lower hinge thereby allowing free radial motion about the axis of said upper hinge and said lower hinge.
5. A dental articulator according to claim 2 whereby said dental articulator is sufficiently resilient to allow for transverse motion along the vertical axis of the body member when sufficient force is applied in the direction of the desired motion to allow for sufficient lateral and protrusive translatable motions and to simulate occlusal and masticatory motions.

6. A dental articulator according to claim 2 whereby a plurality of alternative configurations for articulating models are possible.
7. A dental articulator according to claim 6 selected from the group consisting of using said upper hinge by breaching the connection at the upper body retention holes to allow free movement of the upper hinge and using said lower hinge by breaching the connection at the lower body retention holes to allow free movement of the lower hinge.
8. A dental articulator according to claim 6 selected from the group consisting of
 - a. articulated models sandwiched between said upper member and said lower members;
 - b. said upper member is folded flush against said body member;
 - c. said lower member is folded flush against said body member;
 - d. said upper member and said lower member are folded flush against said body member.
9. A dental articulator according to claim 2 comprising a passive vertical stop whereby said upper articulated model or said lower articulated model comes to rest flush against the body member preventing further movement along the axis of said upper hinge or said lower hinge in the direction of the body member.
10. A dental articulator according to claim 2 whereby said dental articulator comprises an adjustable vertical stop selected from the group consisting of an upper screw and a lower screw.
11. A dental articulator according to claim 2 whereby said dental articulator comprises at least one mounting plate.
12. A dental articulator according to claim 11 whereby said at least one mounting plate is selected from the group consisting said at least one mounting plate with short retention pins and said at least one mounting plate with long retention pins.
13. A dental articulator according to claim 11 whereby said at least one mounting plate comprise a retention grid.

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14. A dental articulator according to claim 11 whereby a plurality of alternative configurations for articulating models are possible using said at least one mounting plate.
15. A dental articulator according to claim 14 selected from the group consisting of
 - a. articulated models sandwiched between said at least one mounting plate fixed on said upper member retention means and said lower member retention means,
 - b. articulated models sandwiched between said upper member and said lower member with said at least one mounting plate fixed on said upper member retention means,
 - c. articulated models sandwiched between said upper member and said lower member with said at least one mounting plate fixed on said lower member retention means,
 - e. articulated models sandwiched between said upper member and said lower member with said at least one mounting plate fixed on said body member,
 - f. an articulated model fixed to said at least one mounting plate on said upper member folded flush against said body member,
 - g. an articulated model fixed to said at least one mounting plate on said lower member folded flush against said body member and
 - h. articulated models fixed to said at least one mounting plate on said upper member and said lower member folded flush against said body member.
16. A dental articulator according to claim 2 made of a material selected from the group consisting of metal, plastic, composite, metal with scored hinges, plastic with scored hinges, composite with scored hinges, metal with conventional hinges, plastic with conventional hinges and composite with conventional hinges.
17. A dental articulator comprising:
 - a. an "L" shaped lower body member;
 - b. an upper member;
 - c. an upper hinge

18. A dental articulator according to claim 17 comprising:

- a. an upper body retention means for securing an upper articulated model;
- b. a vertical lower body retention means for securing a lower articulated model;
- c. a horizontal lower body retention means for securing a lower articulated model;
- d. an upper member retention means for securing an upper articulated model;
and
- e. an upper screw.

19. A dental articulator according to claim 17 whereby said dental articulator is scored perpendicular to the vertical length of the dental articulator at the upper quadrant between said "L" shaped lower body member and said upper member to form said upper hinge thereby allowing free radial motion about the axis of said upper hinge.

20. A dental articulator according to claim 17, whereby said dental articulator is sufficiently resilient to allow for transverse motion along the vertical axis of said "L" shaped lower body member when sufficient force is applied in the direction of the desired motion to allow for sufficient lateral and protrusive translatable motions and to simulate occlusal and masticatory motions.